SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT A NEW DEFINITION FOR SECURITY

Social Development:

A New Definition for Security

Final Report

46th Annual DPI/NGO Conference

8-10 September 1993

New York

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Preface

The Department of Public Information (DPI) is pleased to present this report of its 46th Annual Conference for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 8 to 10 September 1993. Thanks to close collaboration between DPI and the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, more than 1,000 NGOs and representatives of Permanent Missions to the United Nations were able to share views on the conference theme "Social Development: A New Definition for Security".

Following precedents set in 1992, the 46th DPI/NGO Conference continued to emphasize what United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali referred to as the "maturing relationship" of cooperation between the United Nations and the NGO community. It is through this cooperation that our mutual commitment to the goals of peace and development is made more effective.

As in 1992, the Conference took place in the General Assembly Hall and once again featured presentations from NGO representatives as well as senior UN officials and others in the development community. For the first time, the Conference featured Regional Working Groups, which addressed the conference theme from the perspectives of Africa and Western Asia, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The following report, accompanied by an introduction by Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information Samir Sanbar, provides a comprehensive summary of a most successful conference on issues vital to all. Its success was made possible through the hard work of the planning committee of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, DPI staff, NGO volunteers and interns, as well as the excellent contributions by speakers and panellists. We hope that this report will prove a useful resource for all those concerned with the work on social development that lies ahead.

VINCENT M. PIOLA
Chief, NGO Section
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.....Introduction

The 1993 Annual DPI/NGO Conference: Social Development: A New Definition for Security provided a sharp focus for recent new thinking, that challenges to international security cannot be met effectively without addressing the increasingly complex social problems of our time. Such thinking, spurred by the growing instability in the global political situation, envisions a shift away from the traditional notion of security as a strictly military concern. More and more, it is being understood that security is a much broader concept which also encompasses the myriad needs and demands of human development. As Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali stressed in his address to the conference:

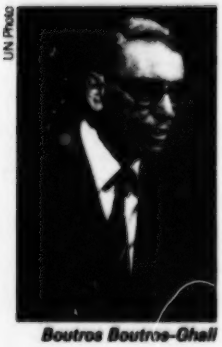
"Social development...is indispensable for lasting peace and economic progress. Sustained progress in human relations cannot be built upon misery and deprivation...The Charter of the United Nations proclaims our responsibility. We strive for the economic and social advancement of all peoples. I embrace this task with enthusiasm."

But exactly what do we mean when we speak of full human security as our goal and commitment? And how can the international community reorient its development policies to better rise to the task? These were the main questions asked at the DPI/NGO Conference. The discussions took on particular urgency since the United Nations is hosting, in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 6 to 12 March 1995, a World Summit for Social Development. The Social Summit, as it is more commonly known, will bring together world leaders to reach agreement on strategies aimed at alleviating poverty, expanding productive employment and promoting social integration of disadvantaged and marginalized people.

NGOs, traditionally more involved in humanitarian work, are now generating fresh approaches in these areas as well and will provide, again in the words of the Secretary-General, "a rich and proven source of experience, expertise and support" for the preparations and outcome of the Social Summit and for the cycle of major conferences on the 1994-1995 United Nations calendar. In addition to the Social Summit, these include the just-concluded Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in Barbados, the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing).

As in the past, DPI was pleased to organize an annual conference in collaboration with the NGO community. Indeed, as we seek to build upon the progress made at earlier landmark gatherings — notably the 1992 World Summit for Children, the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights — the Secretary-General has stressed repeatedly that deepening cooperation between NGOs and the United Nations is essential. It is with that spirit in mind that this publication has been issued. More than a report of the proceedings, it is intended as a guide to NGO involvement in our common effort to build a firm foundation for development and set forth a new, integrated definition of human security.

SAMIR SANBAR
UN Assistant Secretary-General
for Public Information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Boutros Boutros-Ghali

"Only the United Nations has the universality and the breadth of perspective to lead the world towards a new view of economic and social progress. But we cannot accomplish the task alone."

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali,
Opening Address to the Conference

Social Development:
A New Definition For Security
United Nations Headquarters, New York
8-10 September 1993

On the agenda of the 46th Annual DPI/NGO Conference were the following items:

- **Social Development: A New Definition for Security**
- **Celebrating the United Nations Fiftieth Anniversary**
- **The Path from Rio to Copenhagen**
- **Social Development:**
  - **Security = Social Integration of the Unempowered**
  - **Security = Alleviation of Poverty**
  - **Security = Productive Employment**
- **Preparations for the World Summit for Social Development**

Security: Seeking a New Consensus

"The Social Summit needs to achieve consensus on a new development paradigm — the paradigm of sustainable human development".

James Gustave Speth
Administrator,
United Nations Development Programme

UN Photo

James Gustave Speth

Why a New Definition for Security?

For most of modern history, security has been defined largely in terms of the State, revolving around territorial supremacy and requiring enormous military and "security" forces in the face of internal and external threats. In recent years, however, this traditional definition has been challenged, and in the wake of growing economic, environmental and social unrest, the State-centred security model has been shown to be inadequate. As H.E. Juan Somavia, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, pointed out in his keynote address to the Conference, "You could have a very secure state full of insecure people inside."

Seeking a new definition for security has meant re-examining assumptions and posing fundamental questions about the principal sources of insecurity in contemporary societies. Whole peoples as well as individuals seem gripped by pervasive anxieties about the future, uncertainties exacerbated by conditions of poverty, unemployment, violence, drugs and human rights abuses.

Mr. Mahbub Ul Haq, Special Adviser to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), noted that global security can no longer be considered apart from human security, which today means jobs, human development and environmental sustainability and the safety of individuals in their homes, workplaces and streets. Ambassador Juan Somavia put it simply. "Security", he said, "...is sleeping soft at night".

Seeking a New Consensus

In its efforts to redefine security in the post-cold war era, the Conference adopted a broader concept that equated truly sustainable social development with security. Three days of presentations, working group dialogue and discussions also brought a growing awareness that the concept of development itself had to be reassessed in deeper, more human terms.

Mr. Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development, saw the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, as a turning point for advancing a broad, people-centred policy on security and development. "The Rio consensus on sustainable development remains incomplete unless we give practical expression to the notion of putting people at the centre of development", he argued.

UNDP Administrator James Gustave Speth spoke in terms of "seeking a new consensus" that human security merited higher priority than military security. This theme was echoed by many conference speakers, who agreed that social development was, indeed, the new and proper definition of security in our world.

Major Conference Themes

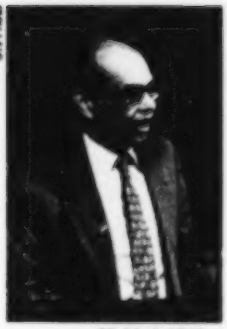
To focus wide-ranging discussion of the issues, the Conference chose to address the three core themes of the upcoming Social Summit:

- Security = Social Integration of the Unempowered
- Security = Alleviation of Poverty
- Security = Productive Employment

Human Security: By Choice, Not Chance

The end of the cold war has brought neither peace nor the promised "peace dividend". Instead, it has exposed, even aggravated, many latent ethnic and regional conflicts and underscored the degree to which poverty, ecological degradation and pervasive discrimination prevent nearly one billion people from securing their basic needs. As UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali declared in his opening address, the "agenda for peace is the agenda for development". Without development, he said, there can be no lasting peace.

UN Photo



Mahbub Ul Haq

"We cannot meet the new threats to human security through the ideas and weapons of yesterday...the conflicts of the future may well be between people rather than between nations".

Mahbub Ul Haq,
Special Adviser to UNDP Administrator

Developing effective strategies to promote social development will require an unprecedented alliance of Governments, UN agencies, non-governmental organizations and members of the private sector. The goal of this partnership must be to forge strong links between security, human rights and socio-economic development, and the focus of international efforts must shift from short-term emergency relief to long-term development assistance.

Institutions must also demonstrate the political will to take action. Governments must redirect their national budget allocations from building fire-power to facilitating people-power. Aid donors can no longer measure development solely in terms of growth in gross domestic product (GDP). A new standard must be developed that aims at other developmental targets: reducing poverty, creating sustainable jobs, delivering primary health care, providing basic education (especially for girls and women) and integrating vulnerable groups into society.

UN Photo

Juan Somavia

Ambassador Somavia pointed out that this new concept of "security with a human face" is now manifest in an increasing number of UN resolutions and in recent publications, such as UNDP's *Human Development Report 1993*, which focused on human security.

The compelling need for remedial action has begun to be recognized. As Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali has observed, we have entered into a "new dimension of insecurity". But addressing, in concrete terms, long-festering social problems continues to present difficult questions; there are no simple solutions.

Peace: A Prerequisite for Human Security

The United Nations was established with three overarching objectives: to foster peace, security and development. Since 1945, it has approached the peace and security aspects of this task by focusing peace-keeping efforts primarily on establishing and enforcing military security. Moving to fulfil its third mandate, the United Nations increasingly places heavy emphasis on human security through development. NGOs share this priority.

Conference participants agreed that a new definition of security should be people-centred security. Peace initiatives need to foster a close link between political and socio-economic security. Military budgets must be re-allocated to finance health and education programmes.

The Disappearing Peace Dividend

A major obstacle to this reallocation of scarce resources is the fact that many of the anticipated benefits of the post-cold war era have yet to be realized. As Mr. Ul Haq noted, "We have phased out the cold war in East-West relations. But we have forgotten to phase it out in the third world". Military budgets in developing countries have not decreased; on the contrary, these military outlays sometimes outstrip funding for basic social services such as health and education.

In addition, some industrialized donor nations and lending institutions have cut back on their development assistance, especially in regions of the developing world, such as sub-Saharan Africa, where East-West rivalries have disappeared. Meanwhile, large numbers of developing nations continue to buy arms, and several donor nations gladly continue to supply them — shrinking the peace dividend with each arms contract. In many of these developing countries, military and debt related expenditures approach 15 per cent of their total budgets.

Poverty: The Greatest Threat to Security

"Sustained progress in human relations cannot be built upon misery and deprivation. Deprivation has many meanings. In economics, deprivation means poverty. In social relations, deprivation means discrimination. In culture, it means rootlessness. In politics, it means marginalization".

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali

The Conference explored the consequences of poverty, which was seen as the greatest threat to security today. Poverty not only worsens social disintegration, which often leads to civil or military conflict, it also paralyzes people, undermining both their ability and their will to deal with hunger and malnutrition, homelessness, illiteracy and social discrimination.

Mr. Speth emphasized that poverty does not respect national borders. The security of people in the home and workplace, he said, is becoming the central concern of our age. As Mr. Desai put it: "As long as we live in societies divided between rich and poor, we will never succeed in getting the type of social cohesion and social integration which is a precondition for development in any country."

Poverty is measured for individuals, communities and countries in terms of per capita income. Mr. Hernán Fuenzalida-Puelma, Chief of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Pan American Health Organization, told the Conference that one billion people, or 20 per cent of the world's population, live in poverty, earning scarcely more than 2 per cent of the world's income. Of that number, half, or 500 million people, live in extreme poverty. In the face of rapid population growth, especially in the developing countries, the percentage of people who are poor continues to climb.

In the worst instances, the survival of an entire society or nation is threatened because the essentials of life are beyond the reach of its people. As all speakers at the Conference agreed, poverty occurs when there are insufficient social and economic opportunities to allow individuals to sustain themselves through meaningful, adequately remunerative work. Its ill-effects are frequently compounded by ethnic tensions and warfare, which can lead to massive economic dislocation, the local displacement of people and large refugee flow. In the world today there are some 17 million refugees, 20 million displaced persons and massive migrations of peoples within and beyond national borders. Deprived of home, health, and education, their lives and livelihoods destroyed, these people add not to their nation's productivity but to its overall economic burden.

In his closing address, Ambassador Stephen Lewis, Special Representative for UNICEF, reminded

participants that vast numbers of people are being marginalized. Not only are these people threatened by hunger and deprivation, he said, but they are often subject to abuse and violence in host countries where they seek to find refuge and new homes.

The Unravelling of the Social Fabric

Participants identified several other major threats to human security, including:

- the increasing polarization between rich and poor, on both the personal and national levels;
- the rise of unemployment, which fuels a sense of deprivation and insecurity that is often manifested in family violence and social crimes;
- the impact of harsh structural adjustment policies, which hit hardest on the poor;
- the depletion of resources and degradation of the environment;
- the debilitating effects of a burgeoning illegal drug trade;
- the degradation of the human spirit through discrimination, prostitution, trafficking in children, etc.
- the preoccupation with building military arsenals in many of the poorest and most volatile regions of the world.

The interplay of these forces puts severe strains on the social and political fabric of a nation. All too often, the desperate, the hungry, the ill-educated and the disenfranchised fall prey to those leaders promising quick and easy political solutions.

Jobless Growth vs. Productive Employment

The *Human Development Report 1993* introduced the term "jobless growth", pointing out, for the 1975-2000 period, the accelerating divergence between the rate of growth in GDP, which shows an upward trend, and the rate of growth of employment, which shows a steady decline.

This "jobless growth", with its high levels of unemployment and low-productivity employment, constitutes one of the gravest contemporary economic and social problems. Although it is most clearly manifested in the industrialized countries, more and more nations are facing this dilemma. It is one of the leading causes of poverty worldwide. Moreover, the search for paid work is one of the principal motives for migration from rural to urban areas and from developing countries to developed countries.

The creation of more productive employment opportunities is essential to eradicating poverty. However, employment must be seen not just as an economic variable but as a fundamental factor of social integration. Employment gives people a place in society, a sense of belonging. A socio-economic safety net, which compensates the jobless for loss of income, is insufficient, doing little to compensate the unemployed for their sense of isolation from society as a whole.

Meanwhile, where prosperity has long been taken for granted, the assurance of job security is fading. In Europe, new terms for poverty are appearing, such as "labour-related poverty" (caused by a shrinking job market) and "soft poverty" (caused by a drop in the real value of salaries, purchasing power and pensions).

In light of these trends and developments, the Conference concluded that generating productive employment must be part of any development strategy and that alleviating poverty must begin with empowering the poor.

Women: The Key to Transformation

UN Photo

Ana Brasileiro

"Development, as an inclusive goal encompassing all aspects of social, economic and environmental life, cannot be achieved without improving the status of women".

Ana Brasileiro
Director, Latin American Desk, UNIFEM

The transformation of exploitative social, economic, and political structures cannot be accomplished without the balancing of gender relationships. Women, together with their dependent children, make up 75 per cent of the world's population. Nearly 60 per cent of the world's poor are women, over 550 million in all.

Because women form the backbone of society in the majority of developing countries, they must be allowed to play a significant role in economic development. They are usually the household managers, they supply the primary health care for the sick and elderly, and in many countries they provide the core of the agricultural workforce.

Women are assuming more and more responsibility for changing their communities and their countries and for the restructuring of society and its institutions. According to Ms. Ana Brasileiro, Director of the Latin American Desk at the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the participation of women in the workforce in Latin America is increasing at a rate faster than that for men. By the end of the century, she noted, the number of women in the economically active population will have risen to 65 million, from just 10 million in 1950, an annualized rate of entry of 3.2 per cent, versus 2.2 per cent for men.

Yet despite this trend and their enormous input in terms of unpaid domestic labour and underpaid formal — and informal — sector employment, women in many countries have remained society's invisible contributors. For example, women's unpaid labour is not reflected in a country's GDP. This bias in the reckoning of productive employment values paid male labour above unpaid female labour, an attitude so ingrained that, often, women themselves do not view their labour as "work".

A number of other factors affect the working choices of women. In her conference statement, Ms. Brasileiro cited the inadequacies of child care and integrated social security programmes. Remedying these problems, she said, will require political leadership from the top, as well as democratic participation on the part of all segments of society.

Towards Gender Neutrality

UN Photo

Participants at the DPI/NGO Conference

Women must overcome discrimination. As the "non-participating majority", women lag far behind men in the developing world, as well as in industrialized nations, according to virtually all social indicators. On average, the participation rate of women in formal–sector employment in developing countries is only half that of men.

Conference participants agreed that gender neutrality is far from being a reality. On the contrary, they observed, in nearly every country women have been systematically excluded from the process of defining national and global problems and shaping their solutions.

Echoing many aspects of the *Human Development Report 1993*, Ms. Brasileiro portrayed women as the world's largest excluded group, one that was frequently barred from positions of power. She argued that "every development strategy should aim to guarantee that women's needs and women's rights are at the forefront of local, national and international agendas".

Women also suffer from a lack of educational opportunities, particularly at the higher levels, and from greater health risks, especially those related to their reproductive roles (i.e., pregnancy and childbirth). According to Ms. Teresita Marie Peña-Bagasao, Executive Director of Kabalikat NG Pamilyang Filipino Foundation, maternal mortality rates in the developing world are more than 15 times higher than those in industrialized countries. Furthermore, women are more vulnerable to sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, due to their traditionally subjugated roles within the patriarchy and their exclusion from sexual decision-making.

Gender Equity: Hope for the Future

Despite their marginalization, women have the potential to become powerful contributors to development. The correlation between the level of female education and the level of a nation's economic and social development, for example, is direct and well-established. In his address to the conference, Ambassador Stephen Lewis pointed out that the battle for gender equity is undeniably one of the most difficult struggles in modern societies. But, he added, the global women's movement, catalyzed in part by the Third United Nations Conference on Women, held in Nairobi in 1985, has set in motion a process that promises to achieve a gender equity that will benefit not only women but all of humanity.

A New Agenda for Development

"People all over the world actively seek their share of economic, political and social benefits...but there are such barriers that...fewer than 10 per cent of people in the world do actively participate in the events and processes that shape their lives".

Soren Dyssegaard
Director, Division of Public Affairs, UNDP

UN Photo

Panellists (from left) Gordon Klopf, Chair, NGO/DPI Executive Committee, Vincent Piola and Mary Purcell

The 1993 DPI/NGO Conference identified social development as the new definition for human security. Participants agreed that this new concept of human security requires development models that are sustainable and which respect the genuine aspirations of people. New development strategies should strive to enhance human capabilities and to widen the range of human choices on issues relating to education, health, employment, etc. As with security, the future focus of development strategies also must be people-oriented.

There was concern that the international community not minimize the progress made so far. In recent decades, for example, developing countries' economies have grown at a pace three times faster than that of the industrialized countries a century ago.

Mr. Ul Haq warned, however, that in spite of technological innovations, we still live in a world where one third of the population lacks access to a simple necessity like safe drinking water, where one fifth of the population goes hungry every night and where one quarter of the population lives in a state of abject poverty. We must realize that these figures represent some 1-1.7 billion people, he said.

Policy agendas too often focus on short-term goals. For example, for reasons of political expediency, twice as much per capita "development" aid is still given to countries which are substantial military spenders. This is in a situation whre only 25 per cent of total aid goes to countries accounting for 75 per cent of the world's poor.

Safety Nets, Not Subsidies

Mr. Ul Haq expressed the prevailing view when he called for a new standard to measure social progress — one that helped redress the growing imbalance between short-term emergency assistance and long-term development assistance. Defining a new approach should be viewed as a challenge, not an obstacle.

In providing "safety nets, not subsidies", the World Bank and the the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were already responding to public pressures to move in this direction, in the opinion of some con-

ference speakers. On the other hand, speakers such as Ambassador Lewis expressed doubt that the World Bank and the IMF had truly changed their international economic agenda to any significant degree. Rather, he declared, they had merely changed their public relations agenda. After the damaging structural adjustment policies of the 1980s, he said, it is now imperative to develop a new respect for the domestic development priorities of developing countries themselves.

Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali made the point that although the impact of NGO aid continues to grow, in both quantity and quality, the $7.2 billion in grants provided in 1989 and channelled through Northern NGOs to Southern NGOs accounted for only 13 per cent of official aid and a mere 2.5 per cent of total assistance to developing countries. This was not intended as a criticism of the role of NGOs, he said, but rather to serve as a reminder that NGOs can supplement the roles of Governments, not replace them.

Democracy and Development

Ambassador Bent Haakonsen of Denmark noted the close correlation between social and economic development and peaceful democratic development. Democratic practices and peaceful resolution of conflicts, he said, are important factors in development and the eradication of poverty. He added, however, that lasting peace and stability can be achieved only if existing and widening gaps between rich and poor people, as well as between rich and poor nations, are narrowed.

Sustainable human development is the only certain way of meeting global needs in the long run. It envisages an ever more comprehensive, participatory process involving the entire community. Its goal — one for which there is no single or previously established model — is no less than each individual's full self-realization.

But this goal can be achieved only where people themselves enjoy the privilege and opportunity to participate in the events and processes that shape their lives. Such sustainable human development is "pro-poor" and "pro-nature"; it accords a high priority to poverty alleviation and environmental regeneration as well as to gender equity.

There was consensus among Conference participants that only this type of development is consistent with the spirit of the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the conventions signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development — popularly known as the "Earth Summit" — by over 150 Governments. The current challenge is to translate this emerging concept of sustainable human development into national development strategies, as well as into international dialogue and, eventually, policy.

Increasingly, Governments are recognizing the importance of the economic dimension of social development, which, as pointed out by Ms. Mary K. Purcell, President of the Conference and representative of the International Federation of University Women at the United Nations, must be addressed at all levels — from grass roots to global. As she observed, "generating employment must be part of any development strategy".

UN Photo

Mary Purcell

20/20 Vision

For too long, development has been treated as synonymous with growth in GDP. However, the well-being of a society depends on the uses of this income rather than on the purely monetary amount. Human development has two sides. It focuses equally on the formation of human capabilities through investment in people and on the use of those capabilities through creation of a participatory framework for income and employment growth. Other speakers concurred that there is no fundamental conflict between the concepts of economic growth and human development. To this end, Mr. Speth set out a "20/20" compact — or development with a human face — built on the principle of reciprocity between donors and developing countries.

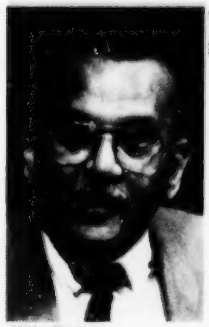
Under this model, 20 per cent of government spending and 20 per cent of development assistance would flow into human development. Currently, the percentage of development assistance earmarked for human development priority areas is only 6.5 per cent, while around 10 per cent of developing countries' government budgets are so earmarked. By linking human development to resource mobilization, the "compact" idea has very strong appeal.

Mr. Ul Haq proposed that the World Summit for Social Development produce a "doable", practical compact on sustainable human development, the basic objectives of which would be to implement an agenda of essential human development goals over the next 10 years in all developing countries. Since the Summit will be the first time that Heads of State and Government come together to address the major issues of social development, what happens in Copenhagen, said Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, will determine the direction of the UN for the next 20 years. The Summit aims to achieve conceptual and practical breakthroughs by taking a comprehensive, integrated approach to social issues.

..... The Road from Rio to Copenhagen

"The Social Summit is not just about social engineering,or how we manage our economies. It has to be a summit about the values which should govern the relationship of any human being to another".

Nitin Desai
Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development


UN Photo

Nitin Desai

The core themes of the World Summit for Social Development — poverty alleviation, productive employment and social integration — arise directly out of the accords of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The medium of international conferences, sponsored by both Governments and NGOs, is a practical and effective way of addressing the collective concerns of the international community. These meetings have led to a greater degree of global awareness and fostered commitments to action. Each successive meeting builds on the achievements of its predecessors and makes its own unique contribution to our evolving understanding of security and development.

According to Under-Secretary-General Nitin Desai, one of the breakthroughs in Rio was the recognition that action to alleviate poverty is central to action to preserve the environment. Whereas the Rio Conference focused attention primarily on the relationship of humanity to nature, the Social Summit will focus on the relationship of humans to one another.

These two landmark conferences are linked with a series of others, including the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in June 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, scheduled for 5-13 September 1994, and the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be convened from 4 to 15 September 1995 in Beijing.

In their NGO Conference presentations, Under-Secretary-General Desai and Ambassador Somavia confirmed that the *Human Development Report 1994* would serve as an important preparatory document for the Social Summit, combining both an intellectual and an operational agenda for its organizers to consider. Mr. Ul Haq said that the report proposes:

- A new consensus on development, integrating the concepts of human development and sustainable environment;
- A new framework of development cooperation, focused on poverty alleviation and sustainable development concerns rather than on cold war alliances;
- A new concept of national and global governance which placed people at the very centre of development; and

- A concrete global compact for a new World Charter aimed at securing greater equality of opportunity for all peoples.

Ambassador Lewis' conference address underscored the hope that the Social Summit would differ from other summits in its ideological approach. No one, he asserted, could hide behind a facade of social integration, alleviation of poverty and productive employment. There would be an ideological clash of economically and socially competing philosophies. This would make the prospective Summit very different from its more narrowly focused predecessors.

In her final statement, Mrs. Purcell summarized the expectations of all NGOs for the Social Summit. Its task, she said, should be to discover and articulate the kinds of economic policies, at both the national and international levels, which would support and enhance both economic and social efficiency in an environmentally sustainable manner. This could only be realized, she concluded, by including all groups in society.

.....From Governments to Grass Roots...and Back Again

"Let the others compromise! We need positions of uncompromising principles from NGOs. Build your coalitions".

Stephen Lewis
Special Representative for UNICEF

UN Photo

Stephen Lewis

NGOs: Linking Awareness and Advocacy

The Conference underscored the fact that public awareness of the work and growing influence of NGOs, both in the field and within the UN system, has increased dramatically in recent years. Advocacy is multiplied many times over through active partnerships, coalitions, alliances and networks within the global NGO community at all levels, from local to international, as well as between NGOs and Governments, the UN and the multilateral agencies. As Under-Secretary-General Desai declared, "This is your job as non-governmental actors: to continue reminding Governments again and again on issues of widespread public concern, mobilizing your views, your opinions, lobbying Governments to influence the outcome of the Summit process".

In order to strengthen their impact, NGO participants at the conference resolved to:

- Ensure that economic and social issues are linked in their work;
- Insist that the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) include social issues among its priorities;
- Ensure an active NGO role in the preparation and follow-up of the Social Summit, as well as for the UN's 50th Anniversary;
- Develop joint strategies with organizations such as the World Bank to provide more effective aid for social development;
- Focus on the establishment of long-range, workable solutions that prioritize human needs, such as: the prevention of rapid population growth; better education and training, especially for women and girls; integration of family-planning programmes with primary health care; improved employment opportunities and income-generating vocational and training programmes for women and young people;
- Push for implementation of UNCED's Agenda 21;
- Demand that the peace dividend from savings on military expenditures be invested in long-term human capital projects;
- Insist that developing countries reduce military spending and that industrialized countries reduce arms production and sales;

- Represent the interests of marginalized sectors of society so that they have a voice in economic and social policy-making;
- Compensate for decreased social spending and exert pressure on Governments to restore discontinued social services;
- Generate additional resources through proper planning and technical assistance;
- Link preventive diplomacy and peace-building with the core issues of the Social Summit.

UN Photo

Participants at the DPI/NGO Conference

..... Conference Programme

Wednesday, 8 September 1993

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME ADDRESS

MARY PURCELL, President,
46th DPI/NGO Conference;
Representative, International Federation
of University Women

GORDON KLOPF, Chair,
NGO/DPI Executive Committee;
Representative, World Organization for
Early Childhood Education

MARCO VIANELLO-CHIODO, then Assistant Secretary-General,
Department of Public Information (DPI), United Nations

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: A NEW DEFINITION FOR SECURITY

H.E. BOUTROS BOUTROS-GHALI, Secretary-General,
United Nations

CHAIR: MARCO VIANELLO-CHIODO, then Assistant Secretary-General,
DPI, United Nations

H.E. JUAN SOMAVIA, Permanent Representative of Chile to the United Nations;
then President, Economic and Social Council;
Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the World
Summit for Social Development (Videotaped address)

CHAIR: MARCO VIANELLO-CHIODO, then Assistant Secretary-General,
DPI, United Nations

JAMES GUSTAVE SPETH, Administrator,
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

CHAIR: VINCENT MARIE PIOLA, Chief,
Non-Governmental Organizations Section,
Promotion and External Relations Division,
DPI, United Nations

MAHBUB UL HAQ, Special Adviser to the Administrator, UNDP

CHAIR: SAMUEL KOO, Director,
Promotion and External Relations Division,
DPI, United Nations

CELEBRATING THE UNITED NATIONS' FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

GILLIAN SORENSEN, Under-Secretary-General
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for
Public Policy, United Nations

THE PATH FROM RIO TO COPENHAGEN

CHAIR: VINCENT MARIE PIOLA, Chief,
NGO Section, DPI, United Nations

NITIN DESAI, Under-Secretary-General, Policy Coordination
and Sustainable Development, United Nations

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: SOCIAL INTEGRATION,
ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY, PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT

MODERATOR: LOUIS J. EMMERIJ,
Special Adviser to the President, World Bank

ROSINA WILTSHIRE, Senior Programme Officer,
International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada

FAYE DUCHIN, Director, Institute of
Economic Analysis, New York University

KARAN SINGH, Former Minister for External Affairs, India

Thursday, 9 September 1993

SECURITY = SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF THE UNEMPOWERED

MODERATOR: JANE CIABATTARI,
Contributing Editor, Parade Publications, Inc.

JOSE DUALOK ROJAS, Executive President,
Asociación Cultural Sejektö de Costa Rica

M. ARAM, President, World Conference
on Religion and Peace International, New York

DALMA DE LA ROSA, President,
Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition

REGIONAL WORKING GROUPS

(I) AFRICA AND WESTERN ASIA

MODERATOR: CARL SCHIEREN,
Vice-President, The African American Institute

FATIMA SBAITY KASSEM, Senior Economic Affairs Officer,
Women's Programme Manager,
Economic and Social Commission
for Western Asia, United Nations

NANA APEADU, Representative,
Pan African Human Rights, United Nations
Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

DJIBRIL DIALLO, Special Assistant to the
Executive Director, UNICEF

(II) ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

MODERATOR: KAY C. GREENE, Representative,
World Federation for Mental Health, Baltimore, MD

TERESITA MARIE PEÑA-BEGASAO, Executive Director,
Kabalikat NG Pamilyang Filipino Foundation, Inc., Manila, Philippines

MICHEL AMAND-PREVOST, Representative,
Organisation Mondiale des Experts, Conseils,
Arbitres, Paris, France

(III) LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

MODERATOR: HEDWIN NAIMARK, Representative,
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

ERNESTO OTTONE, Assistant Secretary, Economic Commission
for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations

MARGARITA ANTONIO MATAMOROS, Representative,
Centro de Unidad Costena de Nicaragua, Managua, Nicaragua

LUIS M. DOLAN, Director, International Programmes,
The Temple of Understanding, New York

SECURITY = ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY

MODERATOR: THE RIGHT REVEREND SIR PAUL REEVES,
Representative, The Anglican Consultative Council to the
United Nations, New York

JAN PETERSON, Founder/Organizer,
National Congress of Neighbourhood Women, Windber, PA

PEGGY ANTROBUS, General Coordinator,
Development Alternatives with Women
for a New Era (DAWN), Barbados

OEY ASTRA MEESOOK, Manager,
Poverty Analysis and Policy Group,
Education and Social Policy Department,
World Bank, Washington, DC

WORKING GROUPS

(I) AFRICA AND WESTERN ASIA

MODERATOR: CATHERINE O'NEILL, Former Chairperson,
Women's Commission for
Refugee Women and Children, New York

SADIG RASHEED, Chief, Public Administration,
Human Resources and Social Development Division,
Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations

A. B. SULEIMAN, Executive Director,
Planned Parenthood Federation
of Nigeria, Lagos, Nigeria

ALBERT ALAIN PETERS, Director,
New York Liaison Office, United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

(II) ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

MODERATOR: RUTH A. BRANDWEIN, Chairperson,
International Commission, Council of Social Work Education

FARIDA ALI, President,
Islamic Heritage Society, New York

JOHN SANFORD PARSONS, Deputy Director,
Asia and the Pacific Division,
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

(III) LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

MODERATOR: ESMERALDA BROWN, Representative,
Servicio Paz y Justicia en America Latina-Serpaj-Al, Ecuador

ERNESTO OTTONE, Assistant Secretary,
Economic Commission for
Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nations

SONJA ARELLANO-LOPEZ, Sociologist,
State University of New York

HERNÁN L. FUENZALIDA-PUELMA, Chief,
Legal Division,
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Friday, 10 September 1993

SECURITY = PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT

MODERATOR: REGGIE HARRIS, Correspondent,
WCBS-TV News, New York

IAN CHAMBERS, Director,
New York Liaison Office,
International Labour Organisation (ILO)

ANN MARKUSEN, Professor,
Rutgers University, New Jersey

BEATRICE VON ROEMER, Representative, International
Confederation of Free Trade Unions, Brussels, Belgium

(I) EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

MODERATOR: MARGERY COHEN, Representative,
League of Women Voters, USA

DUNJA PASTIZZI-FERENCIC, Deputy Executive Secretary,
Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations

SHERRY SALWAY BLACK, Vice President,
First Nations Development Institute, Falmouth, VA

DAVID H. FREEDMAN, Member,
Secretariat of the World Summit for
Social Development, United Nations

(II) AFRICA AND WESTERN ASIA

MODERATOR: CORANN OKORODUDU, Interim Associate
Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Rowan College, New Jersey

SADIG RASHEED, Chief, Public Administration,
Human Resources and Social Development Division,
Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations

MILDRED ROBBINS LEET, President,
Trickle Up Program, New York

SHEILA M. SMITH, Senior Economist, Policy Division, UNDP

(III) LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

MODERATOR: SYLVAN BARNET, Representative,
Rotary International

ERNESTO OTTONE, Assistant Secretary,
Economic Commission for Latin America
and the Caribbean, United Nations

ANA M. BRASILEIRO, Director,
Latin America Desk,
UNIFEM

ANTONIO FERNANDEZ-PEREIRO, Executive Director,
Bridges SSM, International Centre on Ageing, Denvill, NJ

(IV) ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

MODERATOR: ERIC J. HAUBER, Representative,
Soka Gakkai Int'l, Tokyo

HENRIETTE HUTABARAT-LEBANG, Associate General Secretary,
Programme Coordination, Christian Conference of Asia

ELIZABETH LWANGA-OKWENJE, Manager,
Gender in Development Programme,
Bureau for Programme Policy and Evaluation, UNDP

PREPARING FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT

Report of Regional Sessions

MARY PURCELL, President,
46th DPI/NGO Conference

CHAIR: VINCENT MARIE PIOLA, Chief,
NGO Section, DPI

SOCIAL INTEGRATION: THE ECONOMIC LINKS

JEAN-CLAUDE MILLERON, Under-Secretary-General,
Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis, United Nations

LOOKING TO 1995

MODERATOR: MARY PURCELL, President,
46th DPI/NGO Conference

H.E. RICHARD BUTLER, Permanent Representative
of Australia to the United Nations

ROBERTO SAVIO, Director General,
Inter Press Service News Agency, Rome, Italy

H.E. BENT HAAKONSEN, Permanent Representative
of Denmark to the United Nations

CLOSING ADDRESS

STEPHEN LEWIS, Special Representative of the Executive Director,
UNICEF, and former
Ambassador of Canada to the United Nations

Conference NGO Volunteers

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Michele Alexander	World Information Transfer
Sophie Altin	Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America
Iris Dubose	The Links, Inc.
Eileen Fitzmaurice	Congregation de Notre Dame
Celia Gladstone	International Organization of Consumers' Unions
Wilfred Grenville-Grey	United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Julia Grindon-Welch	Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
Pat Kenoyer	Loretto Community
Theresa Monks	International Committee of Catholic Nurses and Medico + Socio Associations
Sr. Mary Theresa Plante	Franciscans International
Lillian Rosen	Voice of Women
Stanley Silver	Jewish War Veterans of the USA
Kevin Smith	Franciscans International
Kathleen Uhler	Franciscans International
Leah Zayade	National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods

46th DPI/NGO Annual Conference Supporters

Alliance Internationale de Tourisme

American Association of Retired Persons

American Cancer Society

American Jewish Congress

Catholic International Education Office

Catholic Relief Services

Christian Children's Fund, Inc.

Congregations of St. Joseph

Franciscans

General Global Board of Ministries, United Methodist Church

Girl Scouts of the United States of America

Institute of International Education

InterAction (American Council for Voluntary International Action)

International Committee of Catholic Nurses and Medico + Socio Associations

International Mahavir Jain Mission

International Peace Academy

International Public Relations Association

International Save the Children Alliance

International Studies Association

Lions Club International

Moa Foundation

Medical Women's International Association

Plan International

Rotary International

The Salvation Army

Save the Children Federation

Soka Gakkai International

Soroptimist International

Trickle Up Program, Inc.

United Church Board for World Ministries

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Women's International Zionist Organization

Women's Missionary Society African Methodist Episcopal Church

World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations

World Conference of Mayors

World Conference on Religion and Peace

World Organization for Early Childhood Education (OMEP)

World Vision International

Historical Note

The Annual DPI/NGO Conference: A Long Tradition

The United Nations Department of Public Information hosted its first Annual Conference for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) 45 years ago. Since then, this DPI/NGO Annual Conference, usually held during the second week of September just prior to the convening of the General Assembly in New York, has become a major international event for the NGO community. The Conference has become a tradition, but it is also unique in that it is the largest annual event organized for NGOs by any office within the UN system.

The United Nations relationship with the NGO community dates to the inception of the Organization itself. Article 71 of the Charter, signed in 1945, established a formal relationship between NGOs and the UN.

The term NGO covers thousands of organizations within our global society, ranging from international political action committees to community sports clubs. Since 1945, some 20,000 NGOs around the world have entered into some form of relationship with the United Nations. They represent a broad spectrum of interests and population groups, including professional associations, foundations, trade unions, business associations, religious organizations, peace and disarmament organizations, women's, youth and children's groups, development and human rights organizations, and research institutes dealing with international affairs.

These NGOs have become key partners in the development process, providing some $7 billion a year to developing countries. They are prime contributors to major UN Conferences and often host simultaneous on-site NGO conferences running parallel to UN meetings (e.g., at the 1985 Third World Conference on Women in Nairobi, Kenya, the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development and the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights), greatly increasing their visibility and impact.

Looking Ahead

In 1994, the Annual DPI/NGO Conference will focus on:

"We, the Peoples....Building Peace"

20-22 September 1994 in New York.

This date places the conference strategically just at the conclusion of the International Conference on Population and Development (5-13 September 1994) in Cairo and immediately preceding the convening of the 49th Session of the General Assembly on 20 September in New York.

For additional details, please contact the NGO Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, 801 UN Plaza, Room U-102, New York, New York, 10017, USA, Tel. (212) 963–6842, Fax: (212) 963–6914.